

TOWN OF FIFIELD REGULAR BOARD MEETING
Minutes of October 1, 2020

ROLL CALL: The meeting was brought to order on October 1, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Fifield Town Hall. Present: W. Felch, J. Hintz, B. Salm, T. Fleming, J. Jontry and 13 others. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 3 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AND SEPTEMBER 8, 2020 SPECIAL BOARD MEETING: A **MOTION** (Hintz, Salm) was made to approve the minutes of the September 3 and September 8 meetings; motion carried, voice vote (3, 0).

TOWN CREW REPORT: T. Fleming reported 300 yards (3-4") of gravel was applied to Lakeshore Drive. Gravel was requested from the USFS for 500 yards on Fishtrap and 500 yards on Smith Rapids. Four culverts were replaced on Sheep Ranch and three on Twin Lakes. 600 yards of gravel from the USFS was received for the culverts. The gas tax forms have been completed. This was the last week of the four 10-hour days schedule; next week the crew returns to five 8-hour days. Movrich park has been closed for the season. W. Felch asked about the outcome of communications regarding snowplowing over the Spingstead Creek Bridge with the weight limits. E-mails received from Patrick Hampston and Mark Beuning state the weight limits can not be waived. T. Fleming stated he has not had a response from the USFS, and asked what the Board wants the crew to do if they are not allowed to plow over the bridge. W. Felch stated he will make a call.

TREASURER'S REPORT: J. Jontry presented the September 2020 treasurer's report. Per an e-mail from J. Baratka of the Highway Department, reimbursement for the Squaw Creek project will arrive after October 15. The Board accepted the report.

FOREST HOME CEMETERY REPORT: No report.

FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS: *Fire Department #1:* B. Lobermeier reported three EMR calls. On September 12 six firefighters participated in the Run for the Fallen of 9/11. *Fire Department #2:* R. Sironi stated there have been no calls since the last meeting.

PRELIMINARY 2021 BUDGET DISCUSSION: Budget worksheets were disseminated to the Highway Department, Fire Department #1 and Fire Department #2 this week. A special board meeting to discuss the 2021 budget is scheduled for October 15, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

AMEND 2020 BUDGET: J. Jontry provided a list of the amendments to account for increased intergovernmental revenues (including additional PILT monies, donations to the fire departments, and reimbursement from the highway department for the Squaw Creek culvert project) and increased expenses (legal, general administrative [human resources], highway construction [Squaw Creek culvert], and capital outlay for the new Department #2 firetruck). J. Hintz asked why we were amending the budget. J. Jontry began to explain but J. Hintz stated "you have to be careful how you are spending the Town's money". J. Hintz then stated he would not consider any budget amendments until he has a chance to investigate. This item was tabled for the October 15th meeting.

DISCUSS SALE OF OLD SCHOOL PROPERTY: W. Felch stated he spoke with Janet Krucky who indicated the assessor has the correct information. Development of the property would be up to the owner. The price needs to be negotiated; \$10K was determined to be too low and W. Felch stated he thinks \$15K would be a reasonable amount. David Fleming stated he would consider this. B. Salm asked why we would ask \$15K when the assessed value is \$9,200 but then stated we should put the property up for bid. W. Felch stated the minimum bid will be set at \$15K. A **MOTION** (Salm, Hintz) was made to place the property up for bid. Motion carried, voice vote (3, 0). An ad will run for one month with bids due by December 1, 2020.

DISCUSS SPRINGSTEAD CREEK BRIDGE USFS JOINT PROJECT: W. Felch repeated the proposal from the Forest Service for replacement of the bridge with the Town's portion of \$125,000 with no contingencies. This item was tabled for the November 1 meeting.

UPDATE ON DAM ROAD PROPERTY PURCHASE: J. Jontry received an e-mail update from Attorney Writz today stating she is waiting for a "letter of instruction" from the Eckes', which will then be sent to the mortgage company.

DISCUSS BAY ROAD PROJECT: J. Schroeder and L. Talbott were in attendance and wanted to know why a traffic counter was placed on Bay Road. W. Felch stated that T. Fleming does counts on various roads yearly. Mr. Schroeder stated the counter has many people concerned as the residents have been there for 30 years and there has never been a count; in light of the recent discussions regarding a potential road project, and the petition submitted by the residents in opposition of that project, it is troubling that a counter has now been placed. He asked what the number of cars means to the Board; W. Felch stated it is just informational. Mr. Schroeder asked if there is a corollary between the counter being placed and a potential road project; T. Fleming stated there could be a corollary between the numbers on the count and how roadways are maintained. W. Felch stated they need the number for the annual road tour. Mr. Schroeder stated the petition was discussed previously and the Board agreed not to do any project at that time; W. Felch stated that is pending the results of the annual road tour. Mr. Schroeder stated needed repair work would be acceptable but there is no reason to do a 66-foot right-of-way clearing and cut down the trees. W. Felch stated they will take all of this into consideration during the road tour.

TRANSFER SITE INCIDENT REPORTS AND RELATED MATTERS: W. Felch spoke with Jim Whittinghill of Eagle Waste about how to handle runoff and odor. Tonnage was provided by Whittinghill; recycling is down and trash compactors are up. T. Fleming stated it has not slowed down in Fifield yet. J. Jontry stated we have received three applications for the attendant position, and W. Felch stated we will review them at the October 15th meeting. R. Sironi asked about parking the heavy rescue van behind the compactor at Pike Lake, where there is a power source, as it no longer fits in the barn. He will coordinate with T. Fleming to install power outlets.

DETERMINE DATE FOR ANNUAL ROAD TOUR: The board agreed to meet on Thursday, October 8th at 1:30 p.m. to assess the following roads: Bay, Twin Lakes, Cy's/FR144, Gates Lake, Sailor Lake, Riley Lake, Thorofare, Old 13, Peters, Chada, Dam, Divine Rapids, Chizek, and Warren.

DRIVEWAY ACCESS PERMITS: One permit was approved for Whowell.

PUBLIC COMMENT: F. Sevcik commended D. Albright on a great brushing job and thanked T. Fleming for the gravel on Twin Lakes. N. Sevcik asked if T. Fleming has provided the information regarding crew hours, time and materials for Dam Road as requested. T. Fleming stated he has not but C. Pagel gave him a form for tracking this. A question was asked about whether ditch cutting was done for the year; T. Fleming stated they are still working on it and it is time consuming. Another question was asked about why residents can not remove scrap metal or other items from the transfer sites. W. Felch stated that is the Town's policy and the ordinance will be enforced.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

REVIEW INVOICES: A **MOTION** (Hintz, Salm) was made to approve vouchers for payment. Motion carried, voice vote (3, 0).

ADJOURN: There being no further business on the Agenda, a **MOTION** (Salm, Hintz) was made at 7:40 p.m. to adjourn. Motion carried, voice vote (3, 0).

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Jontry, Town Clerk/Treasurer